

# The ARP ACTA



## Aylsham Roman Project Newsletter



Vol 7 Issue 1 2022

Welcome to Volume 7 of our newsletters, following a sixth exciting season in the field. It's good to be back, reporting on what we have been up to since June.

Read on to find out more!

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### July Kiln Firing



You may remember we successfully refired our replica Roman pottery kiln this summer.

A great video of the process is now available on our YouTube channel.

For our full channel, copy and paste [youtube.com/@aylshamromanproject](https://www.youtube.com/@aylshamromanproject)

For just this video, copy and paste <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fTAYh-8yFUc>

It's well worth a watch!!

### August 2022

It was hot and the ground was hard, but a rewarding three weeks. The intention had been to complete the area around our two Roman pottery kilns in order for Britannia to complete their report on the findings in the Kiln Field, but right at the end, on the west side of the trench a further feature was found, possibly a kiln or oven, so this is delayed until we can investigate this further, perhaps next year?



The Kitchen Garden proved to be very exciting, as, on the last day, Martin confirmed there is definite evidence of a substantial Roman building on our site. Within the excavated area, a set of test pits revealed part of a channeled hypocaust,



with Roman floor tiles laying on the top. We had been finding yet more roof, floor and box flue tile, plus pieces of lead piping, mortar and opus signinum, so to get this confirmation was so exciting. Thank you, Martin, for rounding off a great three weeks for us with this fantastic news.



## August Review

Many thanks for completing. We know we don't get it all right but we do our best! The main issue was with the Finds Marquee. This is the first year we have used the Scouts marquee when running a full community dig and it wasn't until we had finished we realised that the footprint was much smaller than the marquee we had previously used. This meant less space between the tables.

This is our work area, processing the finds etc and we found that having a lot of visitors in it as well, made this very difficult. We therefore taped off some areas so people asked before entering. This was not to keep out those working in the area, but prevent so many people from entering, picking up finds and putting them back in the tray.

This will be resolved next year, with display tables being put in a dedicated marquee, with posters etc so visitors can see what we have been doing. This will not stop visitors showing interest in the Finds Marquee, and we will probably still have some areas taped off, but it will mean those working there have more room to move around and feel less under pressure.

We also hope to have some of you taking part as here-to-help people and wear an orange bib for part of the day. You don't need to know everything about the Project, but be able to guide visitors to someone who does! This should help ease the pressure again in the Finds Marquee. We will go through this again in the main dig newsletter in the Spring, but if you think you would like to help in this way, do let us know.

A big thank you to Leanne Brown for helping us out with catering. Her first time, and not only did we have drinks and filled rolls, but delicious home

made biscuits each day as well. Do hope you feel like helping us out again next year!

Due to a kind donation from an ARP Friend, we



were able to purchase another marquee which proved a popular eating place and a shelter from the sun

and rain. There was also another shelter near the children's area complete with picnic tables.

We have kept the price the same over the last few years but nothing is getting any cheaper so in 2023 it will need to go up. Full details again in Spring.

***Thank you so much for all your support, we appreciate it all, do hope you will continue.***

***Dates for your diary...Dates...Dates for your diary...***

## **Aylsham Roman Experience 2023**

We are in the process of getting dates booked for the coming year, so watch this space!

**Saturday and Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> December 1000-1400** Our Christmas tombola. Come and find us at the Nursery and try and win! All our promotional items on sale too, many will make great stocking fillers! Aylsham Town Band will be there too on Sunday, so come for a real festive feel!

*Tombola prizes welcomed, please bring to the field on Tuesday mornings or drop off at the Nursery shop, many thanks for those already donated.*

***Did you know?.....Did you know?.....Did you know?.....***

To enhance the flavour of food, Romans added a sweet version of lead. Some say that lead poisoning led to the downfall of the Roman Empire.

 **ARP.....Getting the community into holes** 

Don't forget to check out our [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#) links plus our website

<https://aylshamromanproject.com/>

Email us at [aylshamromanproject@gmail.com](mailto:aylshamromanproject@gmail.com)

Look at our 360 world <http://virtronix360.world/arp>

Go to our [YouTube](#) channel

Broadland Community at Heart Lottery <https://www.communityatheartlottery.com/support/aylsham-roman-project>